Today's Topics:
                        Cellular encryption
          FCC License Turnaround Time, Recent Observations
                           Mac vs IBM
                Modifying Radios for out of band us
                        Packet compression
                           Re: help
                        RST's in contests
                    Where does it go? (2 msgs)

Date: Fri, 15 Dec 89 08:32:09 CST
From: dube@cpdvax.csc.ti.com (DUBE TODD)
Subject: Cellular encryption
Message-ID: <8912151446.AA23764@ti.com>

John Moore tells me that "modern crypto techniques require only that the key be
private"
No argument.
"...even allows you to send messages to someone else who publishes his key..."
Are you telling me that every person who has a phone can then communicate with
ANYONE else who has a phone, safe in the knowledge that NO ONE else can decode
and thus monitor his conversation?
I'll eat my posting when you tell me how this is done, John.

Regards,
Dube Todd

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 89 22:12:24 CST
From: rlwest@flopn2.csc.ti.com (Bob West, WA8YCD)
Subject: FCC License Turnaround Time, Recent Observations
Message-ID: <8912150416.AA19082@ti.com>

> >   All I want for Christmas is my ticket! (being processed as we speak)
> > Who does the FCC hire in Gettysburg, anyway! (sorry. a little flame here...)
>
> Not very many people.
>

OBSERVATION:

  Having watched times from our VE testing sessions to the time our folks

get their tickets in the mail, (and other folks' sessions and turnaround
times) SIX WEEKS is what you can reasonably expect.

One of our guys counted 44 days from the time he took the test to the day
he got his real thing (he got to operate "temporary AA" so it wasn't so bad!)

Another got the license in about the same time (plus or minus a day or two
for local mail loading) but went from NO LICENSE to GENERAL and was on
pins and needles...

Congrats on the new license (whether BRAND NEW or UPGRADE) and hope the
time flies for you--HAVE FUN ON THE AIR!

73,
Bob WA8YCD
RLWEST@FLOPN2.CSC.TI.COM
Texins Amateur Radio Club
Dallas Texas

Date: 14 Dec 89 22:59:05 GMT
From: crdgw1!vdsvax!trub@uunet.uu.net (Donald P Perley)
Subject: Mac vs IBM
Message-ID: <10399@vdsvax.crd.ge.com>

In article <8912072341.AA15099@brazos.rice.edu>, TROTH@RICEVM1 (Rick Troth -
N5CEI) writes:

>>>   discussion of mac menus & icons vs a command line interface

>
>   The "right way" is a balance between the two. The only company
>that has really gone all-out on marrying Xerox-looking windows (yes,
>Xerox invented them, not Apple) and UNIX (the "programmer friendly"
>OS) is NeXT.

How about Sun Workstations? or in the "home" market, Amiga lets you use
the mouse for just about everything, or stick with the keyboard and
various c- or k-shell like interfaces.

>   [sigh] But most of us cannot afford a "real computer" and must
>settle for a Mac or PC or C64 or TRS-80 or Timex-Sinclair.

>input from those of you who already have such systems up and running. For
>example, is it possible to have a TNC setup running 'background' while doing

>something else with the PC, like playing Adventure? :-)

This is hard without multitasking. Again, amiga is the only "home" computer
that comes with it. You can get aftermarket operating systems with
multitasking for most other computers (os2, os9, unix, etc), but you might not
be able to find packet software for those systems.

Clone land is your bet if you want to roll your own from swap meet components
etc. or if you want to run on batteries (lap top).

73,

don perley

perley@trub.crd.ge.com

Date: Thu, 14 Dec 89 22:06:32 CST
From: rlwest@flopn2.csc.ti.com (Bob West, WA8YCD)
Subject: Modifying Radios for out of band us
Message-ID: <8912150416.AA19077@ti.com>

> From: TILDE::"phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu" 14-DEC-1989 21:20:21.18
> To: info-hams-incoming
> CC:
> Subj: Re: Modifying Radios for out of band us
>
>
> And of course UHF radios can be modified to cover 420-440 Mhz. Unfortunately
> that also opens up the public service bands, so the dealers have decided that
> you need to have a MARS license for the mods info (what a bunch of B.S. !!).
>
> --Phil Howard, KA9WGN--
> <phil@ux1.cso.uiuc.edu>
>

My guess is that this has really very little to do with us specifically.
It is, I'll bet (got a nickel?), basic paranoia, them wanting to cover their
own backside, just in case some person or persons unknown out there use the
radio for some undetermined purpose and there is all this unpleasantness
generated by some yet undisclosed individual or group over the whole matter.

Sounds like totally non-parametric thinking to me, but go figure people...

Happy New Year Anyway.

-Bob WA8YCD
 RLWEST@FLOPN2.CSC.TI.COM

Date: Fri, 15 Dec 89 09:17:44 CST
From: dube@cpdvax.csc.ti.com (DUBE TODD)
Subject: Packet compression
Message-ID: <8912151531.AA24134@ti.com>

Marc Kaufman responds to Jim Grubbs' concern about compression: "However,
I, for one, am getting tired of hearing from yhou why things can't be done.
Why don't you just shut up and let us take our lumps (if any) from the FCC."
Marc, are you saying that Hams should cease to be self-policing and just
hand the burden to the FCC? I believe that every Ham should be concerned about
the use of any methods or techniques that might work against the best interests
of the hobby. And I DON'T think we should try to palm off the responsibility
to the "Big Brother" we are all so afraid of. If the compression technique
works within the established rules, then there's no problem; if not, then Jim
has every reason to be concerned, as do the rest of us.

Regards,
Dube Todd, N5PDK

Date: 15 Dec 89 14:26:56 Z
From: "Chris Van den Broeck" <EHRCER3%CBNM.JRC.RTT.BE@CUNYVM.CUNY.EDU>
Subject: Re: help
Message-ID: <"89-12-15-14:26:56.22*EHRCER3"@CBNM.JRC.RTT.BE>

Date: 14 Dec 89 22:42:02 GMT
From: cs.utexas.edu!ut-emx!oo7@tut.cis.ohio-state.edu (Your Tax Dollars At Work)
Subject: RST's in contests
Message-ID: <22367@ut-emx.UUCP>

  Don't forget that some people work contests mainly to pick up new
countries/zones/states, and follow up with a QSL card. The other guy
has to put a signal report on the card for most awards.

  On the other hand, there are contests where you don't send a report
(e.g. Sprints), and whenever I've sent a card to someone as a result
of a QSO in such a contest, the card comes back with a report on it
(yes, it's always 599).

There's actually an award you can get for working all continents and
getting 59 or 599 reports from each one. Perhaps someone should offer
a certificate for getting any report *but* 59 or 599, indicating that
you have actually exchanged some meaningful information with someone.

Derek Wills (AA5BT, G3NMX)
Department of Astronomy, University of Texas,
Austin TX 78712. (512-471-1392)
oo7@astro.as.utexas.edu

Where does it go?
Someone writes:
>AT LEAST get the *&^%*&%* SWL and monitoring stuff out of here! I
>mentioned this before. There now is a rec.radio.shortwave and yet

I just get Info-Hams Digest mailed to me because I don't have direct access to
things like rec.radio.shortwave. What is it anyway? Where is it anyway? Who
cares? I do!

I vote to keep the content just what it is now, SWL, Scanning and Flames. When
did I get a vote anyway? :-)   After all, those all are a part of my hamming.

If anyone cares to enlighten me (via E-mail or otherwise) on how this net
functions, I'd be glad to learn how to not encourage pollution of Hamming with
other radio stuff.

 Dave Waters   WA6AWZ
 Internet:
 Compuserve:
 GEnie:
 Packet: David_Waters.M1@SMTP.ESL.COM
             73277,311
             DRWATERS
             What's that?

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End of INFO-HAMS Digest V89 Issue #1020
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